

Message

From: Sarsony, Chris [Sarsony.Chris@epa.gov]
Sent: 11/24/2015 9:45:48 PM
To: Smith, Darcie [Smith.Darcie@epa.gov]
CC: Sarsony, Chris [Sarsony.Chris@epa.gov]; Rimer, Kelly [Rimer.Kelly@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Chloroprene/Neoprene

Everything you every wanted to know about polychloroprene production
(<http://iisrp.com/WebPolymers/04FinalPolychloroprenelISRP.pdf>)

Apparently, the acetylene method is the old method and most facilities use the butadiene method now – which is the process DOW uses.

“From the beginning until the 1960s, chloroprene was produced by the older “acetylene process”. This process has the disadvantages of being very energy-intensive and having high investment costs. The modern chloroprene process, which is now used by nearly all producers, is based on butadiene, which is readily available. Butadiene is converted into the monomer 2-chlorobutadiene-1,3 (chloroprene) via 3,4-dichlorobutene-1.”

The article also has a list of producers.

<u>Company name</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>capacity(Metric Tons)</u>
DuPont Dow Elastomers	USA	100 000
Bayer AG	Germany	65 000
EniChem	France	40 000
Denki Kagaku Kogyo	Japan	48 000
TOSOH	Japan	30 000
Showa DDE	Japan	20 000

Additional capacities are located in Peoples Republic of China and Armenia.

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From: Sarsony, Chris
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2015 4:30 PM
To: Smith, Darcie <Smith.Darcie@epa.gov>
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The DOW plant is of a different technology than the Denka plant. It's not clear whether there are others out there of the same technology at other firms.

“Denka has one other polychloroprene plant, in Omni, Japan, which produces the material using the acetylene method. Denka said the plant opened in 1962 and currently supplies 80 countries. In 2010, the firm increased its polychloroprene rubber production to 100,000 metric tons.”

“According to Denka, DuPont manufactures polychloroprene using the butadiene method and supplies North America, South America and Europe.”

Here’s the full article about the purchase.

<http://www.rubbernews.com/article/20141217/NEWS/312159998/duPont-to-sell-neoprene-unit-to-japanese-firm>

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